

REMARKS

The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed 18 October 2004 is noted. While this Notice refers to an Amendment document, it does not indicate the filing date of such Amendment document. Moreover, this Notice indicates that the application does not have a list of all of the claims (that is, Claim 1 is omitted); upon a review of the file of the above-identified application, the sole original claim in the application as filed has been mis-numbered as Claim 18. In addition, the Preliminary Amendment filed 27 October 2003, the only Preliminary Amendment, does not amend the claims. Thus, there is no need for a claims list in an Amendment. Accordingly, issuance of this Notice is in error. Withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

In any event, in attempting a *bona fide* response to the Notice mailed 18 October 2004, Applicants are amending the claims of the above-identified application to "cancel" Claims 1-17 as well as the sole original claim erroneously numbered Claim 18, and adds a new Claim 19 to the application. New Claim 19 is the same as original Claim 18, but has been provided, together with canceling of "original" Claims 1-18, in order to provide a listing.

Furthermore, upon review of the above-identified application, Applicants are providing a new section for amendments to the specification, consistent with 37 CFR §1.121, for satisfying requirements of 35 USC §120, and to incorporate by reference the subject matter of the prior application being relied upon under 35 USC §120. Noting especially that the Declaration under 37 CFR §1.63 in the above-identified application is the same as the Declaration under 37 CFR §1.63 in No. 09/486,823, it

is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the specification do not add new matter to the application.

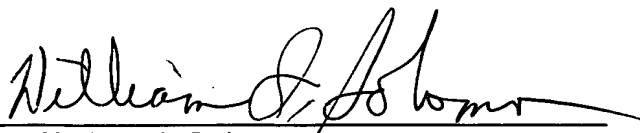
As a direct response to the Notice mailed 18 October 2004, it is to be noted that the claim involved is an original claim in the application; that is, there has been no prior amendments to the claims in the above-identified application. In any event, in order to attempt to provide a *bona fide* response to the Notice mailed 18 October 2004, the present claim amendments are being submitted.

Entry of the present amendments, as a complete and sufficient response to the Notice mailed 18 October 2004, and examination of the above-identified application on the merits in due course, are respectfully submitted.

No Petition or extension fee is required. To whatever other extent is actually necessary and appropriate, Applicants respectfully petition the Commissioner for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. No additional claims fees are required for entry of this paper. Please charge any actual fee deficiency to ATS&K Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (as Case No. 506.38266VC2).

Respectfully submitted,

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